

2021

TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF NARCOTICS

Washington, D. C.  
February 21, 1947.

CONFIDENTIAL

In re: Charles Luciano,  
a Lucky.  
International List #198.

Mr. H. J. Anslinger,  
Commissioner of Narcotics,  
Treasury Department,  
Washington 25, D. C.

Sir:

This will confirm my verbal report to you on February 19, 1947, relative to the investigation of the above person at the Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Referring to District Supervisor Garland H. Williams' confidential letter to you on February 17, 1947, I wish to state that the investigation confirmed the majority of what Supervisor Williams said with regards to Commander Charles R. Raffenden's participation in aiding Luciano's release from prison.

Mention should be made that the subject of Charles Luciano, alias Lucky, is a very "touchy" matter at the Navy Department and the executive officer of the Domestic Branch, Naval Intelligence, with whom I conferred, urgently requested not to be named in any report that might be written concerning the information furnished. During my oral report to you this Captain's name was disclosed and will be furnished to anyone pursuant to your instructions.

The Captain categorically denied that the Navy Department, through the Secretary of the Navy, assisted in having Luciano released from prison and further, that the Navy Department will not under any circumstances sponsor Luciano for a war decoration. He stated that a discharged officer, (no name mentioned), "went overboard on his own and all the communications that he wrote to the New York State Officials were purely his own personal, private and individual doings." He said that in his opinion the discharged officer was as much of a "racketeer" as was Luciano. When the discharged officer was questioned by this Captain prior to being discharged, the officer stated that Luciano had furnished him with names of informers

and that he had obtained valuable information that was used in connection with the operations at Salerno. The officer said, however, that the names of the informants as well as all other information had been recorded in code and that all the records had been destroyed. The Captain said that the Navy Department had no record whatsoever of any information that Luciano is alleged to have furnished and that the Third Naval District, New York City, confirmed the fact that Luciano did not furnish any information to that office.

This investigation was primarily based on the ruse that the Navy Department might be in possession of information relating to Luciano's henchmen and that the Bureau of Narcotics was interested in learning their names so that they could be placed under observation in connection with our investigation of international smugglers. The Captain, would not relinquish the file for examination but he did say that their investigation disclosed that Meyer Lansky and Benjamin Siegel were associates of Luciano. He stated that he could not conceive of the idea that our Bureau did not know Luciano's connections in the United States and that the Third Naval District Headquarters would be more helpful along these lines. The Captain was informed that we already had many of Luciano's associates under active investigation and that my purpose was to check their files for additional information.

I informed the Captain that Luciano was presently in Cuba and he said the last he heard of him was in May of 1946, and he removed a newspaper clipping from the top of the file indicating there had been no recent correspondence. This clipping, which he handed to me to read, was from the Times-Herald, Washington, D. C., dated May 18, 1946, and sub-dated Naples, May 17, 1946. It related that Luciano had taken over the La Marca gang in Italy. Their activities were described as robbing trucks and freight cars and assisting Italians enter the United States illegally if they could pay the price of \$3000 or \$4000. At that time they were operating in territory north of Naples to Minturno and Terracina.

The Captain read off a list of names which he said had actually furnished information relative to the Salerno invasion but added he did not believe they were in any way associated with Luciano. The names furnished are:

Rudolph Raffins  
Cyril Klingenberg  
Rudolph Raffius  
Frank Pelligrino  
Morgan Heiskell  
H. Kohlhaas.

There is attached hereto a clipping from the Washington Daily News, February 20, 1947, pertaining to Luciano and Frank Sinatra.

Respectfully,

/s/ LeRoy W. Morrison

LeRoy W. Morrison,  
Narcotic Agent.

Enc.